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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/826,533	04/16/2004	Timothy D. Twerdahl	PA2254US	2160
22830	7590	10/06/2006	EXAMINER	
CARR & FERRELL LLP 2200 GENG ROAD PALO ALTO, CA 94303			PITARO, RYAN F	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2174	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/826,533

Applicant(s)

TWERDAHL ET AL.

Examiner

Ryan F. Pitaro

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 and 20-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 and 20-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 have been examined.

Response to Amendment

2. This action is in response to Amendment B filed 1/17/2006. In the Amendment claims 1-18,20-23 were amended, and claims 19 and 24 were cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1,2,3,10,11, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Kuenzner et al ("Kuenzner", US 6,816,079) in view of Narayanaswami ("222", US 6,556,222).

As per independent claim 1, Kuenzner teaches a graphical user interface for a computing device comprising: a radial menu including a plurality of first level menu items in a circumferential arrangement, wherein navigation of the radial menu is effected only in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction (Column 2 lines 9-37) the graphical user interface being configured such that a selection of one of the plurality of first level menu items causes a plurality of second level menu items associated with the one first level menu item to replace the first level menu items in the circumferential arrangement (Column 2 lines 9-37). Kuenzner fails to distinctly point out the position of the plurality of first level menu items being maintained. However, 222 teaches the position of the menu items being maintained when the radial menu is navigated (Column 5 lines 25-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of 222 with the device of Kuenzner. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a static interface so that a user can become familiar with positions of the menu items.

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Kuenzner-222 teaches the graphical user interface wherein the radial menu further includes a central object disposed within the circumferential arrangement (Kuenzner, Figure 3).

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 2, Kuenzner-222 teaches the graphical user interface wherein the central object includes text or an icon to represent a user operation (Kuenzner, Figure 4).

As per claim 10, which is dependent on claim 1, Kuenzner teaches the graphical user interface wherein at least one of the plurality of first level menu items includes text or an icon to represent a link to another menu level (Kuenzner, Column 2 lines 9-37).

As per claim 11, which is dependent on claim 1, Kuenzner teaches the graphical user interface wherein at least one of the plurality of second level menu items includes text or an icon to represent a link to an application (Kuenzner, Column 2 lines 9-37).

As per independent claim 12, Kuenzner teaches computing device comprising: a display screen (Column 1 lines 61-66); a processor configured to present a graphical user interface on the display screen, the graphical user interface comprising a radial menu including a plurality of first level menu items in a circumferential arrangement wherein navigation of the radial menu is effected only in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction (Kuenzner, Column 2 lines 9-37), and position of the plurality of the first level menu items is maintained when the radial menu is navigated (222, Column 5 lines 25-67); the graphical user interface being configured such that a selection of one of the plurality of first level menu items causes a plurality of second level menu items associated with the one first level menu item to replace the first level menu items in the circumferential arrangement (Kuenzner, Column 2 lines 9-37); and an input device configured to send a user input to the processor for navigating the radial menu (Kuenzner, Column 2 lines 9-37).

5. Claims 4,5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Kuenzner et al ("Kuenzner", US 6,816,079) and Narayanaswami ("222", US 6,556,222) in view of Tojo et al ("Tojo", US 2004/0237048).

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 3, Kuenzner-222 fails to teach switching between list and radial menu. However, Tojo teaches user operation includes replacing the radial

menu with a menu in a list format (Figure 8a – Figure 8c). Therefore it would have been obvious to combine replacing a radial menu with a list menu with the device of Kuenzner-222.

Motivation to do so would have been to provide a user with the option to use a more conventional and recognizable menu format.

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 3, Kuenzner-222-Tojo teaches the graphical user interface wherein the user operation includes displaying the first level menu items in conjunction with a menu list format (Tojo, Figure 8b).

6. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Kuenzner et al (“Kuenzner”, US 6,816,079) and of Narayanaswami (“222”, US 6,556,222) in view of Beaudet et al (“Beaudet”, 5,689,668).

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 1, Kuenzner-222 fails to distinctly point out a menu item being a default. However, Beaudet teaches the graphical user interface wherein the plurality of first level menu items are populated according to a default configuration (Column 5 lines 40-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the default menu items of Beaudet with the interface of Kuenzner-222. Motivation to do so would have been to permit the user to implement a fast path menu selection.

7. Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuenzner et al (“Kuenzner”, US 6,816,079) and Narayanaswami (“222”, US 6,556,222) in view of Atkinson (“Atkinson”, US 5,701,424).

As per claim 7, which is dependent on claim 1, Kuenzner-222 fails to teach menu items populated by user preference. However, Atkinson teaches a graphical user interface wherein the plurality of first level menu items can be populated according to a user preference (Column 2 lines 66-67, Column 3 lines 1-14). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the user preference teaching of Atkinson with the graphical user interface of Kuenzner-222. Motivation to do so would have been to provide the highest frequency commands at the easiest selectable positions.

As per claim 8, which is dependent on claim 1, Kuenzner-222-Atkinson teaches a graphical user interface further comprising a list format of menu items adjacent to the radial menu (Atkinson, Figure 4).

As per claim 9, which is dependent on claim 7, Kuenzner-222-Atkinson teaches a graphical user interface further configured to allow menu items to be exchanged between the list format and the radial menu (Atkinson, Column 2 lines 66-67, Column 3 lines 1-14).

8. Claims 13,15,16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuenzner et al ("Kuenzner", US 6,816,079) and Narayanaswami ("222", US 6,556,222) in view of Miller-Smith ("Miller-Smith", US 2003/0164818).

As per claim 13, which is dependent on claim 12, Kuenzner-222 fails to specifically point out a handheld device. However, Miller-Smith teaches a computing device wherein the computing device is a handheld device (Figure 2), Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the handheld teaching of Miller-Smith with the teaching of Kuenzner-222. Motivation to do so would have been to make the computing device portable.

As per claim 15, which is dependent on claim 12, Kuenzner-222-Miller-Smith teaches the computing device wherein the input device is an analog input device comprising a two-axis joystick mechanically biased to a center position (Claim 7 lines 1-2).

As per claim 16, which is dependent on claim 15, Kuenzner-222-Miller-Smith teaches the computing device wherein selection of a first or second menu item is affected by returning the joystick to the center position (Miller-Smith, [0014] lines 1-7).

9. Claims 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuenzner et al ("Kuenzner", US 6,816,079) and Narayanaswami ("222", US 6,556,222) in view of Rosenberg et al ("Rosenberg", US 2001/0010513).

As per claim 14, which is dependent on claim 12, Kuenzner-222 fails to teach an actuator for producing tactile feedback. However, Rosenberg teaches a computing device of further comprising an actuator for producing a tactile feedback, the processor being further configured to signal the actuator to produce the tactile feedback as the radial menu is navigated ([0068] lines 1-17). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the tactile feedback teaching of Rosenberg with the teaching of Kuenzner-222. Motivation to do so would have been for enhancing interactions and manipulations in a graphical environment provided by a computer.

10. Claims 17-18,20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller-Smith ("Miller-Smith", US 2003/0164818) in view of Martin et al ("Martin", US 2003/0122770).

As per independent claim 17, Miller-Smith teaches a computing system comprising: a display screen (Figure 2, item 17); a processor configured to present a graphical user interface on the display screen, the graphical user interface comprising a menu (Figure 2); and a handheld device coupled to the processor including input means configured to send a user input to the processor for navigating a plurality of items in the menu (Figure 2 item 16). Miller-Smith fails to teach tactile feedback. However, Martin teaches an actuator for producing a tactile feedback, the processor being further configured to signal the actuator to produce the tactile feedback as the menu is navigated, wherein an intensity of the tactile feedback corresponds to an identity of each of the plurality of items in the menu ([0080]-[0082]). Therefore it would have been obvious to an

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artisan at the time of the invention to combine the tactile feedback teaching of Martin with the teaching of Miller-Smith. Motivation to do so would have been to allow a user to navigate a menu structure without having to refer to the visual display. Miller-Smith fails to distinctly point out the position of the plurality of first level menu items of the radial menu being maintained. However, 222 teaches the position of the radial menu items being maintained when the radial menu is navigated (Column 5 lines 25-67) only in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction. Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of 222 with the device of Miller-Smith. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a static interface so that a user can become familiar with positions of the menu items.

As per claim 18, which is dependent on claim 17, Miller-Smith-Martin-222 teaches a computing system, wherein the handheld device further includes the display screen and the processor (Miller-Smith, Figure 2 item 17).

As per claim 20, which is dependent on claim 17, Miller-Smith-Martin-222 teaches a computing system wherein the tactile feedback is a vibration (Martin, [0080]-[0082]).

As per claim 21, which is dependent on claim 17, Miller-Smith-Martin-222 fails to teach an analog input device. However, OFFICIAL NOTICE is taken that analog input devices are well known in the art. Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan to combine the teaching of an analog joystick with the device of Miller-Smith-Martin. Motivation to do so would have been to allow for full control and flexible positioning within the user interface.

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As per claim 22, which is dependent on claim 17, Miller-Smith-Martin-222 teaches a computing system wherein the processor is further configured to signal the actuator to produce the tactile feedback when a menu item is selected (Martin, [0080]-[0082]).

As per claim 23, which is dependent on claim 17, Miller-Smith-Martin-222 teaches a computing system further configured to produce a sound when the actuator is signaled to produce the tactile feedback (Martin, [0080]-[0082]).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18,20-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan F. Pitaro whose telephone number is 571-272-4071. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am - 4:30pm Mondays through Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on 571-272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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RFP

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